



Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies  
E-Newsletter – December 19, 2003

## Faculty News

***Price Presents New York Findings at International Conference.*** **Byron Price**, Assistant Professor, Department of Public Policy presented results of a survey of e-Government best practices at the “Global e-Policy e-Gov” conference in Seoul, Korea, on November 20-21, 2003. The purpose of the conference was to present the results of the first research effort to evaluate digital governance in municipalities throughout the world. Dr. Price’s talk focused on New York City’s experience. Seoul, Hong Kong, Singapore, New York, and Shanghai are ranked the five cities world wide.

The survey evaluated the municipal websites of major cities in 98 countries, ranking them in terms of 1) security and privacy, 2) usability, 3) content, 4) services, and 5) citizen participation. The survey was conducted jointly by the E-governance Institute of Rutgers University-Newark and the Global e-Policy e-Government Institute of Sungkyunkwan University, Korea. It was co-sponsored by the UN Division for Public Administration and Development Management, and the American Society for Public Administration. Results for 100 cities worldwide are available online at <http://www.andromeda.rutgers.edu/~egovinst/Website/>.

***Miller Paper Published.*** Professor of Public Administration **Gerald Miller**, and coauthors Jonathan Justice and Iryna Illiash, have completed a paper, “Practice as Interpretation in Public Financial Management,” for publication in Aman Kahn and W. Bartley Hildreth, editors, *Financial Management Theory in the Public Sector*.

## Announcements

***Fannie Mae Foundation Accepting Nominations for Johnson Fellows Through December 31st.*** The Fannie Mae Foundation seeks nominations for the 5th annual James A. Johnson Community Fellows program. The program recognizes and rewards leading community-based urban and rural affordable housing and community development professionals and gives them the opportunity to pursue personal and professional development goals. The Foundation will select six fellows to receive a \$70,000 grant, plus a \$20,000 educational travel/study stipend, to pursue a self-designed, professional-development track to enhance the individual's skills and field experiences. Completed nominations are due by December 31<sup>st</sup>. A further description of the program, criteria for selection, and the nomination form are on the Foundation's website: <http://www.fanniemaefoundation.org/grants/johnson.shtml>.

***Focus on Newark.*** The Living Cities Census Project has released data books that synthesize information from the 2000 Census. Living Cities commissioned the Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy at the Brookings Institution to complete a data book for each of 23 cities. ***Newark in Focus: A Profile from Census 2000*** is available on line at <http://www.brook.edu/es/urban/livingcities/Newark.htm>. For additional information, a project overview, or a list of the other cities visit: Living Cities at [www.livingcities.org](http://www.livingcities.org) or <http://www.brook.edu/es/urban/livingcities/>.

***IECME Seeks Post Doctoral Fellow.*** The Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience (IECME) at Rutgers University, seeks a recent Ph.D. in the humanities or social sciences to serve as the fourth Geraldine R. Dodge Fellow during the 2004-2005 academic year. The Institute is an interdisciplinary program that sponsors scholarly programming for the general public, encourages interracial and multi-cultural understanding, and serves as a hub for the promotion of research and collegial discussion on the social construction of ethnicity and race in modern societies.

The Dodge Fellow will provide administrative and programmatic assistance to develop the Institute's short and long-range initiatives in public scholarship, in particular efforts to bring prominent scholars into the public sphere and promote Rutgers' humanitarian service to community-based organizations. The Dodge Fellow will be expected to make contributions to the new scholarship on race and ethnicity and to share her or his work with local communities. Qualifications include an earned Ph.D., an interest in public scholarship, an ability to work across academic disciplines, and an active engagement in scholarship deserving of publication.

The post-doctoral fellowship is for the academic year 2004-2005, with a possible renewal for a second year. Fellows will receive an annual salary of \$40,000, and a modest stipend for research materials and/or related conference travel. Rutgers University also offers liberal personal benefits, including comprehensive medical and dental plans. An office, computer, and access to University resources are available. Further information regarding the Institute is located on the Institute web page: <http://ethnicity.rutgers.edu>. Please direct any email inquiries to the Institute Program Coordinator, Lori Barcliff-Baptista, at [barcliff@andromeda.rutgers.edu](mailto:barcliff@andromeda.rutgers.edu). Applicants should submit a letter of interest, resume, and three letters of recommendation by **February 1, 2004** to:

Dr. Clement Alexander Price  
Director, Rutgers Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern  
Experience  
c/o M. Ruth Correia  
Rutgers University  
175 University Ave., Rm 337  
Newark, NJ 07102

## **Upcoming Events**

***Cornwall Faculty Luncheon Series.*** The next lecture in the Cornwall Center's Faculty Luncheon Series is scheduled for Wednesday, February 25, 2004 from 12:00—1:30 P.M.

The speaker will be Elliot Sclar, Columbia University Professor of Urban Planning and Public Affairs. Dr. Sclar is a nationally recognized expert on local economic development planning. Rutgers University's Center for Global Change and Governance will cosponsor the event. Look for more details and other coming events in the January issue of the Cornwall *MetroNews*.

***Exhibit to Focus on Immigrant Experience.*** The opening reception for the Robeson Art Gallery's next exhibit, "Immigration and Expectations," will be held on Thursday, January 29th, 2004, from 4 - 6 P.M. "Immigration and Expectations" features diverse artists who explore the dialog of personal and cultural identities in visual art. The exhibit will run through March 5th, 2004. All events are free and open to the public. The Robeson Art Gallery is located in the Paul Robeson Campus Center, 350 Martin Luther King Blvd, 1<sup>st</sup> floor. For more information contact Wynsor Gervais, Curator at [galleryst@andromeda.rutgers.edu](mailto:galleryst@andromeda.rutgers.edu), or by phone at 973-353-1610.

***24<sup>th</sup> Annual Lecture Series to Revisit Brown v. Board.*** The Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience will host the 24th Annual Marion Thompson Wright Lecture: "Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas: A Retrospective." In observance of Black History Month the conference will reflect upon the impact of the Brown v. Board of Education decision and its resonance in American society a half-century later. The event will be held on Saturday, February 21, 2004 from 8:30 A.M.–3:30 P.M. at the Paul Robeson Campus Center, 350 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Newark, NJ 07102. The Keynote speaker will be Professor Roger Wilkins, the Clarence J. Robinson Professor of History and American Culture at George Mason University.

Additional speakers include: Glenda Gilmore, Peter V & C Vann Woodward Professor of History, African, Afro-American and American Studies, Yale University; and Joseph DeLaine, Jr., member of the 50th anniversary Brown v. Board Presidential commission and the Briggs-DeLaine-Pearson Foundation.

For additional information visit the Institute's website <http://ethnicity.rutgers.edu> or contact Lori Barcliff-Baptista at 973-353-1871 ext. 37 or by email at [barcliff@andromeda.rutgers.edu](mailto:barcliff@andromeda.rutgers.edu).

## News

### Local News

***Council to review downtown housing proposals.*** In December the Newark City Council will formally begin deliberations on plans to revitalize Newark's downtown area with new housing and retail businesses. A proposed "urban village" would bring more than 2,000 units of housing and retail services to the center city. Other projects, including a proposal to renovate the 7-year vacant Hahne's Department Store into rental apartments units and plans by Rutgers University to construct graduate and undergraduate housing, could net as many as 6,000 new units in the downtown area. City officials wish to transform Newark's downtown into a "24-hour" city.

The largest of the proposed projects faces opposition from the Mulberry Street Coalition—residents in a 13-acre area slated for condemnation and demolition if the “urban village” project is approved. The original proposal included a proposed new sports arena that has stalled due in part to the breakup of the YankeeNets organization (see Related Articles: Arena/YankeeNets). Residents are concerned that the displacement is unnecessary and that they will not be fairly compensated.

**Related articles: Development.** “Listen to residents,” Star Ledger, Saturday, December 13, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/search/index.ssf?/base/news-1/107129766668970.xml?starledger?oed>

“Newark project finds an angel in Fannie Mae: Company to foot nearly half the bill to build luxury units,” Star Ledger, Thursday, December 18, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/search/index.ssf?/base/news-5/1071730544292160.xml?starledger?nnj>

“Newark sets out plan for ‘Urban Village’,” New York Times, Saturday, November 15, 2003.

<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=F50A11F7395C0C768DDDA80994DB404482>.

“Commercial Property/Newark: Developers Plan to Repopulate the Downtown Area,” New York Times, Sunday, November 30, 2003.

<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9F00E1D8163AF933A05752C1A9659C8B63>

**Related articles: Arena/YankeeNets.**

“We don't need Nets, N.J. sports czar says: State to look at ways to lure baseball team,” Star Ledger, Friday, December 12, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/1071212274140340.xml>

“Fight for control of the Nets moves into overtime: Bloomberg cheerleads for a team in Brooklyn, while McGreevey takes a ‘deposit’,” Star Ledger, Thursday, December 11, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-5/1071124471115370.xml>

“Yankees and Nets go their own ways: Factions compete for hoop team,” Star Ledger, Tuesday, December 09, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/1070952104123020.xml>

“The ins and outs of the breakup,” Star Ledger, Tuesday, December 09, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/1070951782123020.xml>

“Exec drops out of bidding for Nets: Better shot for Jersey to keep team, as billionaire wanted shift to Long Island,” Star Ledger, Friday, December 05, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/107060965336770.xml>

***Late budget approval brings increased taxes.*** With less than a month to go in the year the Newark City Council has approved a spending plan for 2003 that includes a 28.5% increase in property taxes and a tax rate of \$2.16 per \$100. The average tax bill would increase by 28%. City officials and council members have vowed to reform the process that created this year's late start and approval. The proposed budget for 2004 is due in January.

Related article: Newark sees a tax increase in late budget," Star Ledger, Tuesday, December 9, 2003. <http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-4/1070952454123020.xml>

## **State News**

***State forecasts budget deficit.*** New Jersey's budget problems may get worse in the coming year. The nonpartisan Office of Legislative Services estimates a potential budget shortfall of as much as \$5 billion. The governor's office predicted the shortfall several weeks ago and has entertained a number of measures to help reduce the expected gap. The governor recently dropped one proposed measure, a gas tax increase, saying that now is not the time to more than double the tax. Other measures on the table include school consolidations at the local level, e.g., school districts, to help relieve property tax burdens.

**Related articles:** "Gas tax decision disappoints panel: Members stop short of criticizing governor," Star Ledger, Sunday, December 14, 2003. <http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/107138497941170.xml>

"Governor scuttles gas tax increase: Move means decisions on setting aside projects," Star Ledger, Wednesday, December 10, 2003. <http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/107103805485800.xml>

"State budget could fall short by \$5B: Nonpartisan office bases fiscal 2005 report on trailing revenue and increased costs," Star Ledger, Saturday, November 22, 2003. <http://www.nj.com/printer/printer.ssf?/base/news-1/1069483024287430.xml>

"McGreevey: Many schools + many towns = high taxes: In convention speech, he vows to act but fails to offer specifics," Star Ledger, Friday, November 21, 2003. <http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-5/106939830987630.xml>

"Officials told consolidation key to property tax relief," Star Ledger, Thursday, November 20, 2003. <http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-5/106931081418040.xml>

"McGreevey won't say no to sales or income tax hikes," Star Ledger, Wednesday, November 19, 2003. <http://www.nj.com/statehouse/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-1/106922465849930.xml>

***Merger planning tabled.*** After months of discussion Governor McGreevey and representatives of the State's public research universities have decided to sideline plans to restructure and merge the schools into one larger entity. Structural issues and costs—the expected price tag is an estimated \$1.3 billion dollars over 10 years—were the major reasons cited for delaying further action at this time. For additional information on the restructuring proposal visit the Rutgers University website at: <http://ruweb.rutgers.edu/restructure/index.shtml>

**Related articles:** “Governor to Rutgers: Make up your mind: School gets a deadline to endorse huge merger,” Star Ledger, Wednesday, November 19, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-11/1069224585314640.xml>

“Governor ties merger plan to school funds: If idea for 3 universities dies, so would higher-ed referendum,” Star Ledger, Thursday, November 20, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-5/106931053518040.xml>

“Rutgers merger plan alive after meeting: McGreevey, university officials hold private talks at Drumthwacket,” Star Ledger, Sunday, November 23, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/1069570183226600.xml>

“State yields on university merger plan: Proposal cuts power of chancellor, a sore point for some at 3 schools,” Star Ledger, Thursday, December 04, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/107052103935930.xml>

“Rutgers faculty discuss merger: McCormick sets his conditions,” Star Ledger, Wednesday, December 10, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-5/1071039276133370.xml>

“Rutgers merger pegged at \$1.3B: Ballpark figure adds to deadline pressure,” Star Ledger, Thursday, December 11, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/1071125520144860.xml>

“Rutgers merger plan is mothballed: Politics, economics and public opinion doom McGreevey proposal to consolidate state universities,” Star Ledger, Friday, December 12, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/1071212198140340.xml>

“No merger, but funding issues linger: University leaders insist a need for a big cash infusion remains,” Star Ledger, Saturday, December 13, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/107129701968970.xml>

“McGreevey retreats to regroup, run again: Realigning goals with midterm reality,” Star Ledger, Sunday, December 14, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/107138419541170.xml>

***New Jersey fights proposal to relax air pollution standards.*** New Jersey and 13 other states have joined to oppose the Bush administration's proposal to relax pollution standards for power plants, manufacturers, and refineries. New Jersey has recently proposed several tough standards to hold polluters more accountable for remediation and clean up. Officials expressed concern that the new Clean Air regulations would increase the amount of pollution from out of state.

*Related articles:* "States quarrel over federal air pollution rules," Star Ledger, Thursday, November 27, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/106991361132460.xml>

"Politics clouding fight for clean air: Jersey AG focuses resources on EPA," Star Ledger, Sunday, November 30, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-5/1070172816203280.xml>

"Groups to sue chemical companies over Newark Bay pollution," Star Ledger, Thursday, November 20, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-5/106931090718040.xml>

"Cleanup of brownfields ordered to speed development in cities," Star Ledger, Wednesday, November 19, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-5/1069223952314640.xml>

"14 states try to block new rules on pollution: Jersey joins legal fight against EPA measures," Star Ledger, Tuesday, November 18, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-5/1069137841307900.xml>

***State Council on Affordable Housing entertains arguments against new housing reform rules.*** Opponents of new state policies governing affordable housing say the measure will not increase the supply of affordable housing critically needed throughout the state. Activist and groups that oppose the new COAH rules have argued that the rules may have a negative effect on new construction and that they continue to concentrate poor people.

**Related articles:** "Council hears testimony on affordable-housing reforms," Star Ledger, Tuesday, November 25, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-5/106974300848160.xml>

"This group's passion is protest: ACORN targets affordable-housing reforms," Star Ledger, Monday, November 24, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-5/1069655451213910.xml>

"Activists urge rejection of new affordable housing rules: Clergy and anti-poverty agencies allege racial and economic bias," Star Ledger, Tuesday, November 18, 2003.

<http://www.nj.com/statehouse/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-1/1069137274307900.xml>

“New home warranties show cracks: State aims to boost protections after probe finds construction problems in 17 counties,” Star Ledger, Wednesday, November 19, 2003.  
<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-5/1069223934314640.xml>

## **National News**

***Federal budget deficit fueled by spending on new projects.*** New funding for projects, many of which would benefit New Jersey, has left the government with a budget deficit of \$69.5 billion. Much of the proposed spending in New Jersey would benefit state and local governments, colleges and health care facilities.

**Related articles:** House clears spending bill stuffed with pet projects,” Star Ledger, Tuesday, December 09, 2003.  
<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-12/1070951748123020.xml>

“U.S. begins budget year with \$69.5 billion deficit,” Star Ledger, Tuesday, November 18, 2003.  
<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-11/1069138345307900.xml>

“Huge spending bill earmarks millions for Jersey: \$373B package contains worthy, though not essential, items,” Star Ledger, Monday, December 08, 2003.  
<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-5/1070863836273990.xml>

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The Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies circulates the **Cornwall MetroNews** e-newsletter to publicize urban-related topics, news, and events on the Rutgers-Newark Campus and in the City of Newark.

If you would like to add an item or add / remove a name from our distribution list, please contact Katherine Accousti at [accousti@andromeda.rutgers.edu](mailto:accousti@andromeda.rutgers.edu) or 973-353-1750 ext. 224.

*The following individuals contributed to this edition of the **Cornwall MetroNews**:* Donita Devance-Manzini and Irene Welch.

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